

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 771 - SB 821**

March 10, 2009

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires municipal, county, and volunteer fire departments to adopt the National Fire Protection Association standards by 2012. Failure to do so may result in a fiscal penalty to be determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration or revocation or suspension of a volunteer fire company's charter by the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,000,000\***

Assumptions:

- A more precise estimate of the cost to local governments cannot be determined because the cost will vary substantially depending on the current standards in place, the size of the department, and whether or not the departments have the code books or will be required to obtain them.
- If this bill is enacted, fire departments will comply with the provisions and not be subject to fiscal penalties or charter suspension or revocation.
- There are approximately 728 fire departments and 27,000 firefighters statewide.
- If implementation of the provisions of this bill cost \$1,500 per fire department, the impact statewide would be an increase in local expenditures of \$1,092,000.

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible, and "W." in the middle.

James W. White, Executive Director

/kmc